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Walter Christian Babcock

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EXAMINER

MENON, KRISHNAN S

ART UNIT

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1797

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 1797

Advisory Action:

The amendment will not be entered because it changes the scope of dependent claims 8,9 and 11, which require further consideration.

Arguments are not persuasive. Regarding the Zhu reference, the egg lecithin was applied to the inside of the well, which means the membrane at the bottom of the well on the outside is hydrophilic. In addition, the egg lecithin membrane is a phospholipid membrane, which means it itself is having one side hydrophilic and other hydrophobic (page 400).

Regarding the blank receiving solution, there is no indication in the reference that it is only the phosphate buffer; the Examiner submits that it only means the receiving solution does not contain the drug.

Regarding the Kellury reference, even if the well is made of hollow fibers, it is still a multi-well plate; and applicant's claims do not discriminate the hollow fibers. Kellury teaches that making the membrane surface hydrophilic or hydrophobic will depend on the analyte.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krishnan S. Menon whose telephone number is 571-272-1143. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vickie Kim can be reached on 571-272-0579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Krishnan S Menon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797